

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 193257
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARLAY:JD
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
NEA:ALATHERTON
P:PCHABIB
NSC:WQUANDT
S/S-O:AWOTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 193257

NODIS
WHITE HOUSE FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SA, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT FOR FAHD

1. YOU SHOULD DELIVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE FOLLOWING
LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRINCE FAHD.
2. BEGIN TEXT: YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS: SECRETARY VANCE HAS
REPORTED TO ME IN DETAIL ON HIS VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST.
I WANT TO EXPRESS MY WARMEST APPRECIATION FOR THE COOPERA-
TIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE RECEPTION THAT HE WAS GIVEN IN TAIF,
WHICH WAS SO MUCH IN KEEPING WITH THE RELATIONSHIPS
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

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IT IS EVIDENT FROM SECRETARY VANCE'S REPORT TO ME THAT
SERIOUS SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES REMAIN BETWEEN THE PARTIES
AND THAT THERE CONTINUE TO BE OBSTACLES TO THE CONVENING
OF A GENEVA CONFERENCE. I BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT HIS
TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST OPENED A NEW PHASE OF MORE IN-
TENSIVE AND MORE CONCRETE EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH THESE
ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM, AND I AM NOT DISCOURAGED ABOUT THE

EVENTUAL OUTCOME. I SEE THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL TALKS WITH US BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER AS AN IMPORTANT MEANS FOR MAKING DEFINITIVE PREPARATIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR A GENEVA CONFERENCE. I AM GRATIFIED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER SAUD WILL PARTICIPATE AND THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL CONTRIBUTE IN ADVANCE ITS DETAILED THOUGHTS ABOUT THE NATURE OF A SETTLEMENT.

SECRETARY VANCE DESCRIBED TO ME YOUR VERY HELPFUL EFFORTS WITH RESPECT TO THE PROBLEM OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA AND THE CONCEPT OF A UNIFIED ARAB DELEGATION, AS WELL AS THE ISSUE OF CONTACTS BETWEEN MY GOVERNMENT AND THE PLO. IN GOOD PART AS THE RESULT OF ENERGETIC SAUDI EFFORTS, I FEEL THAT SOME MOVEMENT TOOK PLACE ON BOTH ISSUES. WITH RESPECT TO U.S. TALKING WITH THE PLO, WE NOW AWAIT THE RESULTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS YOU HAVE HAD WITH THAT ORGANIZATION. I CANNOT STRESS TOO STRONGLY HOW IMPORTANT IT IS, IN ORDER FOR US TO BEGIN A DIALOGUE WITH THE PALESTINIANS DIRECTLY, THAT ANY PLO STATEMENT ACCEPTING RESOLUTION 242 BE CLEAR AND UNAMBIGUOUS, ALONG THE LINES DISCUSSED WITH YOU BY SECRETARY VANCE. WE CONSIDER THIS APPROACH INFINITELY PREFERABLE TO ANY ATTEMPT TO AMEND OR SUPERSEDE RESOLUTION 242 BY FORMAL ACTION IN THE UNITED NATIONS. SUCH ACTION COULD THREATEN THE ONLY EXISTING FRAMEWORK FOR NEGOTIATIONS, NAMELY ACCEPTANCE OF RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 BY ALL THE PARTIES,

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AND WE WOULD ACCORDINGLY BE OBLIGED TO OPPOSE IT.

FINALLY, I WAS GRATIFIED TO HEAR THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAD INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER ASSISTING PRESIDENT SARKIS IN ORGANIZING A LEBANESE ARMY. WE WILL BE MAKING EVERY EFFORT OF OUR OWN TO ASSIST IN THIS IMPORTANT PROJECT. THE SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON, IF IT IS NOT BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL, SEEMS TO US TO HAVE THE POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUSLY DISRUPTING THE MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. I HAVE ACCORDINGLY BEEN IN TOUCH WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN TO IMPRESS UPON ISRAEL THE NEED FOR UTMOST RESTRAINT IN ORDER TO GIVE PRESIDENT SARKIS' EFFORTS TIME TO MATERIALIZE. I HAVE ALSO WRITTEN PRESIDENT ASSAD URGING THAT HE USE HIS INFLUENCE TO HELP CONSOLIDATE A CEASE FIRE FIRE IN THE SOUTH AND ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SHTAWRAH AGREEMENT.

I VERY MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH PRINCE SAUD. MEANWHILE, I SEND YOU MY WARM REGARDS AND BEST WISHES. SINCERELY, JIMMY. END TEXT.

VANCE

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Sent Date: 15-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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